

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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ARGENTUM RISK PARTNERS LLC,

Plaintiff,

-against-

BRAD SCHAEFFER,

Defendant,  
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No. 19-CV-1622 (OTW)

**ORDER**

**ONA T. WANG, United States Magistrate Judge:**

The Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization have advised people to take precautions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Chief Judge of this Court has entered standing orders regarding the same. *See, e.g.*, 20-MC-155. In order to protect public health while promoting the "just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding," Fed. R. Civ. P. 1, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that counsel shall conduct work remotely. This includes, but is not limited to, client meetings, work meetings, and hand deliveries of courtesy copies to the Court (courtesy copies can be sent via email or mail). It is further

**ORDERED**, that **no depositions shall take place until after May 1, 2020**, absent a showing of exceptionally good cause. It is further

**ORDERED**, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4), **that fact discovery is adjourned *sine die***. Parties are directed to submit a **joint status letter by March 31, 2020** discussing: (1) whether they would request a telephonic settlement conference; and (2) the remaining discovery, including particularly, a proposed plan for completing depositions after May 1, 2020. Nothing in this Order prevents the parties from seeking to further modify the pretrial schedule in light of the COVID-19 pandemic (or for any other good cause). Before seeking such relief, the parties must, as always, meet and confer (via remote means) in a good faith effort to reach agreement on how best to fulfill the goals of Rule 1 while avoiding unnecessary health risks. It is further

**ORDERED**, that the **March 31, 2020 status conference is adjourned *sine die***.

**ORDERED** that if any party or counsel has any private, personal, familial or medical concerns that they need to share with the Court that would necessitate further orders, counsel may email Wang\_NYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov *ex parte* provided that they advise the other parties that they will be contacting the Court *ex parte*.

**SO ORDERED.**

Dated: March 20, 2020  
New York, New York

s/ Ona T. Wang

**Ona T. Wang**  
United States Magistrate Judge